

PSL 104: Reading in College

Description

This course is designed to help you improve your skills in reading comprehension and using readings for studying and constructive applications. We will also think about learning theory, resource utilization, and how aspects of identity play a role in the college experience.

Schedule

Wednesday, 1:00 – 1:50 PM, Marshfield Room 409

Instructor

Dr. Ryan T. O'Leary

Email: roleary@uwsp.edu

Office: Room 162 in Marshfield

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday, 10:00 – 10:50 AM, & by appointment

Learning Objectives

By taking this course, students will learn to:

- ✓ vary their reading speed to meet the requirements of varied texts and circumstances,
- ✓ apply reading strategies appropriate to varied texts and reading circumstances,
- ✓ apply note-taking strategies appropriate to varied texts and reading circumstances,
- ✓ identify the main idea or argument of a text,
- ✓ manage multiple simultaneous reading assignments.

Electronics Policy

Computers, tablets, and cellphones are not permitted in this class unless required for a specific course activity. Research shows that handwritten notes are more effective than typed notes, and that our brain processes written texts more effectively when reading hard copies than when reading digital copies. When an assignment asks you to bring your reading to class you *must bring a hard copy*. Not doing so may result in an absence for that class session.

Assessment & Grading

Your grade will be based on the average of three categories: attendance, reading assignments, and a monthly reflection journal.

Late assignments will be accepted with a penalty of 5% from points earned for each day the assignment is late.

Attendance

Attendance and participation are important to succeed in any class. You will receive full credit for each class session for which you come to class on time and stay for the entire period, with a hard copy of a reading to discuss, and prepared to contribute. Coming to class late or leaving early will earn 80% credit. If you come to class without a hard copy of a reading to discuss you will be asked to go get one, resulting in an entry of late in the attendance record. Coming to class both late (or leaving early) and without a hard copy of a reading will be counted as an absence for the day.

Reading Assignments

Each week that a journal entry is not due, you will be asked to complete a reading assignment designed to help you practice academic reading skills. These assignments will be due on Canvas before class begins. You will be graded on thoughtfulness, metacognition, goal setting, and clarity of writing.

Reflection Journal

Four times throughout the semester you will be asked to reflect on the challenges and successes you find in your practice of academic reading and writing. You will be graded on thoughtfulness, metacognition, goal setting, and clarity of writing.

Extra Credit

Throughout the semester you will have opportunities to earn extra credit by attending events or workshops, doing additional reading, et cetera.

Course Schedule

<u>Class Session</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Week 1, January 25	Introduction
Week 2, February 1	Active Reading <u>Reading Assignment Due</u>
Week 3, February 8	Workshopping the Schedule & Identifying Resources <u>Reading Assignment Due</u>
Week 4, February 15	Graphic Organizers for Text Structures <u>First Journal Entry Due</u>
Week 5, February 22	Recognizing Concepts: Claims, Evidence, Reasoning <u>Reading Assignment Due</u>
Week 6, March 1	Tracking a Writer's Moves <u>Reading Assignment Due</u>
Week 7, March 8	Paraphrasing <u>Reading Assignment Due</u>
Week 8, March 15	Workshopping Major Assignments <u>Second Journal Entry Due</u>
Week 9, March 22	<i>Spring Break!</i>
Week 10, March 29	Paragraph Functions & What it Says/Does <u>Reading Assignment Due</u>

Week 11, April 5	Text-to-Text, Text-to-Self, Text-to-World <u>Reading Assignment Due</u>
Week 12, April 12	Workshopping Major Assignments <u>Reading Assignment Due</u>
Week 13, April 19	Signal Phrases, Metalanguage, Etc. <u>Third Journal Entry Due</u>
Week 14, April 26	Discipline-specific Vocabulary <u>Reading Assignment Due</u>
Week 15, May 3	Challenging the Text <u>Reading Assignment Due</u>
Week 16, May 10	Workshopping Major Assignments <u>Reading Assignment Due</u>
Week 17, May 17	Finals Week <u>Final Journal Entry Due</u>